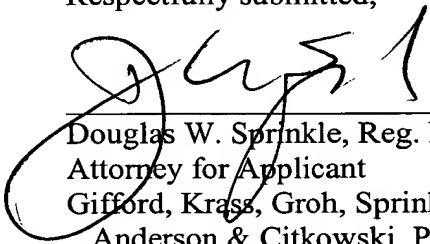


**REMARKS**

If the Examiner has any questions relating to the application, Applicant's attorney may be reached at (248) 647-6000.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

- 1           3.       (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 [or claim 2],  
2 characterized in that the coupling member (14) comprises an insertable portion (22)  
3 provided with an approximately part circular-like cut-out (26) which, in the inserted  
4 state, fills up the space between the slot opening (16) and the circular reception space  
5 for the data storage medium (12) in the flat housing (10) at least in part, preferably  
6 substantially in full.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

- 1           4.       (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that at least one of the narrow sides (28) of  
3 the flat housing (10) adjacent to the slot opening (16) is provided with projection-like  
4 latching means (36) for the coupling member (14).

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

- 1           5.       (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that at least one connecting element which  
3 connects two halves of the flat housing (10) to one another is formed as latching  
4 means (36).

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

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1           6.       (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that at least one latching means of the  
3 coupling member (14) comprises at least one material web (32) which is elastically  
4 deformable, in particular by latching means (36) of the flat housing (10) and which  
5 bounds at least one cut-out (33) which is in particular in the shape of an elongate slot.

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

1           8.       (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the slot opening (16) of the flat  
3 housing (10) is at least substantially completely closed when the coupling member  
4 (14) is inserted.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

1           9.       (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the coupling member (14) has at least  
3 one abutment edge which can be brought into abutment with at least one edge region  
4 bounding the slot opening (16) or with at least one abutment region formed in the flat  
5 housing (10) on insertion into the flat housing (10).

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

1           10.      (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the outer portion (24) of the coupling  
3 member (14) has at least one coupling element (30) via which the coupling member  
4 (14) can be connected, in particular releasably connected, to carriers (42), in particular

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5 in the form of flip covers, outer packagings, rod arrangements, hanging registers,  
6 storage racks, display units, storage containers, rail systems and/or plug systems.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

1 11. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the coupling member (14), in  
3 particular a coupling element (30) of the coupling member (14), is formed for the  
4 releasable connection to storage apparatuses for data storage media of the DVD type,  
5 in particular with fixing elements (50) arranged at narrow sides (44) of DVD boxes  
6 (42).

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

1 12. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the outer portion of the coupling  
3 member (14) is connected in one piece to a carrier (42).

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

1 13. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the coupling member (14) is a  
3 component of a folding packaging, in particular one consisting of cardboard or card.

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

1 14. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the coupling member (14) – in the

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3 state connected to a carrier (42) – is pivotable with respect to the carrier (42) and is in  
4 particular biased relative to the carrier (42) in to an inserting and removing position  
5 which allows a simple coupling to the flat housing (10).

Claim 15 has been amended as follows:

1 15. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with [at least one of the  
2 preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the coupling member (14) consists of  
3 a reusable material, in particular of plastic, preferably polypropylene, or of cardboard  
4 or card.

Claim 17 has been cancelled.

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